

Message Text

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41

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 DRC-01 IO-14 /183 W

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O R 191446Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2065

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 2434

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OPEC, AU, PFOR

SUBJECT: FARNSWORTH ON YAMANI AND ATEEQY

1. CLYDE FARNSWORTH, NEW YORK TIMES, INFORMED EMBOFF THAT HIS PAPER WILL CARRY STORY TOMORROW REPORTING ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH SHIKH YAMANI INDICATING THAT YAMANI HAD THREATENED IN RECENT OPEC CONFERENCE THAT SAUDI ARABIA WOULD SET UP ITS OWN POSTED PRICE SYSTEM IF OPEC INSISTED ON RAISING CRUDE OIL PRICES. FARNSWORTH SAID HE HAD STORY ALSO FROM ANOTHER SOURCE WHO INTERPRETED YAMANI'S THREAT AS INDICATING A SAUDI THREAT TO BREAK UP OPEC IF PRICES WERE RAISED.

2. FARNSWORTH ALSO SAW KUWAITI MINISTER ATEEQY BEFORE LATTER'S DEPARTURE FROM VIENNA. ATEEQY TOLD HIM THAT KUWAIT WOULD BE EXPORTING 45,000 BBL. PER DAY OF OIL TO THE U.S. AND WOULD INCREASE ITS PRODUCTION FOR THIS PURPOSE; FURTHER THAT KUWAIT'S PRODUCTION IS NOW 2.57
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MILLION BBL. PER DAY, THAT FOR CONSERVATION REASONS THE

ABSOLUTE LIMIT ON KUWAITI PRODUCTION WOULD BE 3 MILLION
BBL. DAILY. FARNSWORTH HAS THE FOLLOWING QUOTE FROM
ATEEQY: QUOTE I DO BELIEVE WE HAVE A UNITED FRONT.
IF ANYBODY WANTS TO TRY US LET THEM TRY. UNQUOTE. TRINKA

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Message Attributes

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